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Media Release

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2009 investor education campaign empowers Delawareans to avoid investment frauds and scams

Offers September 15 seminar, printed and web-based resources to enhance investor security

Wilmington – Today the Delaware Department of Justice announced the launch of its 2009 investor education campaign. The effort includes a September 15 seminar featuring award-winning journalist and best-selling author Jean Chatzky who brings investing tips for thriving during a tough economy as well as updated print and online resources to help Delawareans avoid investment fraud and scams.

On Tuesday, September 15 at 7:30 p.m., the Department hosts a free online seminar featuring award-winning journalist, best-selling author and motivational speaker Jean Chatzky. Chatzky is the financial editor for NBC's *Today*, a contributor to the *Oprah Winfrey Show*, and a columnist for *The New York Daily News*. Her most recent book, *The Difference*, outlines strategies for thriving during a tough economy. Her live hour-long "webinar" will provide tips for saving and investing, and she'll answer participants' financial questions. Register at www.investorresourcecenter.org today to join the webinar from any internet connection.

"Arming Delaware families with financial knowledge and tools empowers them to make more informed decisions and strengthens their ability to avoid becoming victims of investment fraud," stated Delaware Securities Commissioner James Ropp.

The Department also announced that its popular investor protection tools have been updated and enhanced. The online Investor Resource Center (www.investorresourcecenter.org), launched by Attorney General Biden in 2007, features new material tailored to address the challenges of today's economic climate. It provides a one-stop shop of helpful references, video webcasts, investor alerts, an investment professional background check, online complaint form, and links to tools that promote sound investing. The *2009 Safe Investing Guide*, a printed companion to the Investor Resource Center, is being delivered this week as a free insert in newspapers statewide. The 2009 edition features this year's top investor traps, outlines financial and investment implications following a job dislocation, sheds light on the importance of scrutinizing IRA investments, and much more.

Delawareans can request the *2009 Safe Investing Guide* by calling the Department's Securities Unit at (302) 577-8935. The 2009 investor education campaign is funded by fines and penalties paid by those who violate the Delaware Securities Act. The Delaware Department of Justice Securities Unit uses these funds to combat investment fraud and sponsor investment education programs.

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